

THE PROPER AUTHORITIES AND CITATIONS FOR *DRYOPTERIS ARGUTA* AND *D. SPINULOSA*.—The common Californian Shield-fern, *Dryopteris arguta*, has commonly been given the authority “(Kaulf.) Watt, Canad. Nat. II, 3: 159. 1866.” In checking Watt’s publication, I found that the combination is not validly published here. Watt gave a catalogue of northern North American ferns, and recognized the genus *Aspidium* Swartz in a broad sense, including *Polystichum* and *Dryopteris* as sections. Although Watt writes “*D. arguta* (Kaulf. 242),” he did not in fact recognize *Dryopteris* as a genus at this time, and therefore the “*D.*” must be disregarded and read as “*A.*”

Most early writers on ferns considered *Aspidium argutum* Kaulf. as only a variety of the southern European *A. rigidum* (Hoffm.) Swartz [= *Dryopteris rigida* (Hoffm.) Underw.]. Apparently the first to use the name *Dryopteris arguta* was Christensen in his paper “On the Genus *Dryopteris*” (Amer. Fern J. 1: 36. 1911), but he did not give any citation or any authority for the epithet, and so although the meaning is really clear the combination can hardly be considered as validly published by Christensen. The first to use definitely the name *D. arguta* was Maxon in his paper “Notes on American Ferns—XVI.” Maxon gave a clear statement of the characters of *D. arguta*, and its specific distinctness has hardly been questioned since, but Maxon erroneously attributed the combination to Watt, in which he has been followed by more recent authors. The proper citation is:

DRYOPTERIS ARGUTA (Kaulf.) Maxon, Amer. Fern J. 11: 3. 1921.

Aspidium argutum Kaulf. Enum. Fil. 242. 1824.

In the Index Filicum Supplement 3, the citation of “Watt, Canadian Naturalist II, 13: 159. 1867” for *D. spinulosa* is wrong as to volume, page, and date. Like *D. arguta* mentioned above, this combination was not properly validly published on p. 159 of vol. 3 (not 13), but was published later in the same volume. Apparently Watt changed his mind about adopting *Dryopteris* as a genus distinct from *Aspidium*. The proper citation is:

DRYOPTERIS SPINULOSA (Müll.) Watt, Canad. Nat. II, 3: 403. 1868.

Polypodium spinulosum Müll. Fl. Dan. t. 707. 1777.

Although the name *D. spinulosa* is still commonly used in the eastern United States it is incorrect, because the basionym of Müller is a later, illegitimate homonym of *Polypodium spinulosum* Burm. (1768). The correct name for our plant is *Dryopteris carthusiana* (Vill.) H. P. Fuchs, Bull. Soc. Bot. France **105**: 339. 1958.—C. V. MORTON, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.* 20560.

Notes and News

XITH INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS.—About six thousand botanists are expected to attend the next international botanical congress, which will be held in Seattle, Washington, next August. Many fern enthusiasts may wish to register and to attend the sessions of contributed fern papers. Several pre- and post-congress field trips are also planned. The Society is planning a luncheon that will be an excellent opportunity to meet pteridologists from at home and abroad. A meeting of the Council will also be held. These activities will take the place of those normally scheduled with the A.I.B.S. annual meeting. For details concerning the papers and field trips, write to Dr. George W. Fischer, 3917 15th Ave. N.E., Seattle, Washington 98105. If you wish to attend the luncheon, write to the Society president soon, as an estimate of the number likely to attend is needed.—I. W. K.

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